

# ~Humbug Valley~

## Management through Collaboration





The background of the slide features a stylized mountain range. The top half is composed of various shades of green, with darker green peaks and lighter green slopes. The bottom half is a solid, bright yellow-orange color. The transition between the two colors is jagged, resembling a torn piece of paper. The text is centered in the yellow-orange section.

# Maidu Summit Consortium

CA Department  
of Fish and Wildlife

Protecting and enhancing resources, while empowering the community



# Humbug Valley is within the ancestral homeland of the Maidu People





# Our Background

- Held our first meeting in late Spring 2013, at the request of Maidu Summit Consortium
- We asked, how could a collaboration of our two groups work to permanently protect and enhance natural resources and cultural resources in Humbug Valley versus competing for stewardship rights
- Identified specific interests for project site from the point-of-view of our respective groups
- Wide support for reuniting the Maidu with lost ancestral lands, while at the same time addressing effective resource allocation and management through cooperation.

# Our Agreement

- This project seemed to each party as an opportunity to test effective use of traditional ecological knowledge in conjunction with western science approach within a single dynamic wilderness environment.
- The solution found would be in our agreeing that the Maidu Summit Consortium should assume fee-title ownership of Humbug Valley while CA Department of Fish and Wildlife were the right group to reserve a conservation easement.



# Our Vision

- In the months leading up to this point, a working group of committees from each party worked tirelessly to draft and produce a final proposal that fused our original competing claims into one.
- All matters of long-term management objectives and site restoration and enhancement goals were outlined and presented to Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council.
- Commonalities in approach and shared interests in effective management of Humbug Valley have been identified and collaborative efforts moving forward will clearly benefit from experience drawn from the current project.

# MSC Member Groups

- Greenville Indian Rancheria
- Maidu Cultural Development Group
- Mountain Maidu Historical Preservation Group
- Maidyk Weye
- Roundhouse Council
- Susanville Indian Rancheria
- Tasmam Koyom Foundation
- Tsi-Akim Maidu
- United Maidu Nation



# MSC Sponsors

- Lannan Foundation
- Christensen Fund
- Seventh Generation for Indian Development
- Together Green Project
- Friends of Humbug Valley members  
(a fundraising project of Maidu Summit Consortium)
- Individual Donors and the support/participation of many local stakeholders



# MSC Affiliations

- Native Land Trust Alliance
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Sierra Institute
- Almanor Basin Water Advisory Committee
- Feather River Land Trust
- UC Davis
- CSU Chico
- Feather River College
- Plumas Audubon Society
- The Nature Conservancy
- Flickr Press
- InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council
- Native American Land Conservancy
- Sycuan Band of Mission Indians
- many others

# Our Advisors

- Berkey Williams Law Firm
  - Services have recently been secured in preparations for entering into land conveyance and related conservation easement negotiations for Humbug Valley
- Edwin Wilson, Esq.
  - Has served several key roles in the 501(c)(3) formation process and in advising on matters of proposal to Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council
- Steve Ingram, Esq.
  - General Counsel legal advisor for CDFW



# Past Successes for Maidu Summit Consortium

- Protection from site degradation at
  - Humbug Valley
  - Lake Almanor
  - Soda Rock
  - Homer Lake
  - Heart K Ranch in Genesee
- Habitat Improvement Projects
  - Big Springs site restoration and cleanup
  - Greenville Campground fuels reduction
  - Yellow Creek protective fencing project

# Planned Projects

- Humbug Valley Capital Improvements
  - Yellow Creek Campground expansion and improvement
  - Maidu Culture and History Interpretive Kiosk
  - Construction of a natural setting amphitheater
  - Construction of resource protection projects
  - Restoration of a century-old historic building
- Humbug Valley Management Plan Objectives
  - Stream-course habitat restoration
  - Invasive plant species eradication
  - Improvement of existing natural resources related to cultural practices, and the reintroduction/translocation of species no longer present
  - Community outreach and interpretive/educational program development



# Maintaining Cooperation

The Maidu Summit Consortium and the State of California have identified the need to initiate programs that share traditional understanding of ecology with agencies charged with the duty to protect such resources.

The Maidu Community has a widely publicized deficiency of land resources and access to cultural properties that we rightfully claim as required in order to survive as a people.

The collaboration of our two parties address each of these desperate needs in a holistic and positive approach. Our hope is that this project serves as a template for many other opportunities in the future.

# Next Steps

- Continued collaboration among participant groups in refining new strategies for widespread resource management that incorporates traditional knowledge
- Secure new partnerships with foundations and agencies necessary for sustaining our long-term goals at Humbug Valley
- Continue developing indigenous community participation in resource protection and enhancement
- Expand youth development programs within the context of our many projects at Humbug Valley



# Who We Are





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# Natural Resources of Humbug Valley





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# Thank You

On behalf of Maidu Summit Consortium and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, we thank you for the opportunity to participate today and to provide this presentation concerning all the cooperative efforts being made for the future of Humbug Valley.

